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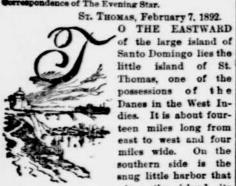
ISLAND OF ST. THOMAS

It Would Make a Desirable Coaling Station for the United States.

ITS PRODUCTS AND PEOPLE

Still Held by Denmark-What a Hurrican Did Years Ago-Cocoa and Its Cultivation-A Delightful Climate and Fertile Soil-How the Island is Governed.

pondence of The Evening Star.



gives the island its commercial importance and the quaint old lown that ever since 1650 has been a commercial town of importance. Several times our government, desirous of having a naval and coaling station in the West Indies, has looked longing eyes toward the mountain ribbed Island of St. Thomas. The island has always been healthy and has ever been noticeably free from the ravages of yellow fever. The soil is fertile and the valleys would all make productive sugar and cocoa plantations.
The United States government in 1868 appointed a board of commissioners to visit St.
Thomas and report on its fitness as a naval

DESIRABILITY AS A COALING STATION. The commissioners, after a thorough inspec tion of the island, decided that it was eminently

fit for the required purpose, and the papers for the transfer of the island from Denmark to the United States for the sum of \$6,000,000 were all but signed when a hurricane swept over the Windward Islands, striking St. Tho in its course and devastating the island. unfortunate circumstance so prejudiced the commissioners that they changed their favorable report to one condemning the island. Since time no hurricane of any note has touched the island, and Denmark would in all probability dispose of the island for half the sum she then demanded. Of course the government would have to go to the expense of fortifying the island and a body of troops would have to be stationed there; but if we are to build a navy time without replenishing their coa supply. In times of peace the ports of other nations may be used as coaling ports, but if we were at war with any other nation the act of coaling in a neutral port would render that neutral liable to the consequences of alding a belligerent, an act that is contrary to the accepted laws of nations.

The Mole St. Nicholas, on the coast of Hayti,

has been much spoken of for a West India coaling station, but it is a barren waste, where millions of dollars would be required to fit it up suitably as a coaling port. WHAT THE TOWN LOOKS LIKE.

In a recent article in the New York Herald on "St. Thomas as a Coaling Station" the writer asserts that harbor is a "tideless basin." but this mistake is made by many others—the rise of the tide is very small, but by the peculiar conformation of the rocks at the en-trance to the harbor a current sweeps around the harbor, keeping its waters clear and pure.



MARKET IN ST. THOMAS The town now known as St. Thomas is the one that the French, at the time of their occupancy of the island, called Charlotte Amalia. It is a the foot hills. Eight in the center of the town stands the Hotel du Commerce, the chief hotel of the place. It is an old Spanish building, set back of a garden of tropical palms and banana trees and looks for all the world like it might have been transplanted from the tales of the Arabian Nights. The low ground story, with its broad, cool arches and brick tiled floor, and the winding stairway twisted about a huge stone column give it th ance of a mediaval castle, but above is a broad cool porch where meals are served. No

one is in a hurry and even the shopkeepers, that always ask a foreigner twice the price of everything, seem to be in no hurry to even

The larger part of the population is composed of negroes and mulattoes, with a sprinkling of foreigners, English, French and Danish. The old fort still quarters a garrison of Danish troops. I met a captain in the Danish regi-ment, a fine-looking, blue-eyed German, who was glad to welcome American officers to his home, because, he said, "the North sea people all liked America so much, and he hoped if Denmark did sell the island it would go to the United States." To the northward of the red roofed town of Charlotte Amalia two grim-look To the northward of the reding old castles frown down on the peaceful town and harbor below. These are the castles of Bluebeard and Blackbeard, both of whom were noted buccaneers of the seventeenth cen-Then the port of Charlotte Amalia was tury. Then the port of Charlotte Amalia was a stronghold of the pirates, and they came in there to sell their prizes and replenish their stores. It is a legend of the island that an "Englishmen" named Fogarty purchased the caste of Bluebeard and found beneath it enough treasure to make him wealthy for a lifetime, and that he had a pretty daughter, "the charming Miss Fogarty," she was called, and after living in the old castle through her childhood days, the belle of the town, she ran away with an English clerk to the consultant with an English clerk to the consul, and only came back years afterward to be forgiven by her wrathy father. St. Thomas is a "free port," and no duties are levied on any imports except rum—and even that seems unnecessary, for, with the exception of a Danish soldier stagger ing back to a "ten days in the jail" probably and a "Jack Tar ashore," few drunken men ar seen. The shops are neat and well kept, and, as a rule, articles of merchandise of the commoner sort are much cheaper than in "the states." Cows are few and the milk of goats is generally used instead. It seems that horse are few in the Antilles, for it is rarely that any thing but a pony is seen. The prestige of the island as a coaling station and "port of call" is gone, however, and English push and energy has evercome Danish their



overcome Danish thrift and sturdiness, and

the Earbadoes and St. Lucia far outrank St. Thomas in this respect. But be that as it may, the pretty island with its dome-like hills, ever arbor and the neat little town may still be spoken of as the prettiest spot in the West Indies. One may stand on the hill back of the crumbling ruins of the Pirate Blackbeard's castle and look out over the harbor as it basks in the tropic scene and contare not the in the tropic scene and conjure up the way it must have looked when the famous English renegrade captains who had taken to piracy came in to sell their prizes and celebrate on the

All over the civilized world people drink cocoa, and yet few, I venture to say, know how it smade. On a scraggly bush that locks like underbrush the long bean-like green pods grow that contain the "nibe" from which cocon is e. These kernels resemble in size and gen-appearance the kernel of an almoud. sel may rare first spread out in the sun to dry, 102,000

where they are raked over and over by barefooted negro girls that walk over them with
utter disregard to their future use assa beverage on an English or American breakfast table.
After it is well sun dried it is put up by the
bushel in coffee bags and shipped all over the
world. The after process of making it palatable consists merely in scorching it brown in an
oven, grinding it and mixing it with some substance that will allow it to be worked into cakes
suitable for sale in the markets, but the famous stance that will allow it to be worked into cakes suitable for sale in the markets, but the famous brands one buys in American groceries are no better than the beverage made by grinding the dry and scorched nut between two stones in a West India mountain side camp and boiling it in goat's milk. Skeptical cooks may doubt this, but the "proof of the pudding is in the eating."

To the southward of St. Thomas, and withi sight of it on a clear day, lies the little island of Santa Cruz, which is a veritable little fruit garden, in which most of the rich fruits sold in the St. Thomas markets are grown. In this little island is the far-famed Avenue of on either side by a row of stately cocoa palms, of the large island of timerise without a stalk or leaf fifty or sixty feet and theu branch out into broad-spreading tutis of deep green palm leaves, with the big green-hulled cocoanuts under them in clusters. When the cocoanuts are green the milk in them is quite palatable, and as they may be easily cut open with a knife the milk forms a favorite drink. After they get ripe the outer hull cracks, and finally, if left to themselves, the nut drops out like a big hickory nut and falls to the ground, as we see it in American markets. markets.

THE PRODUCT OF BAY OIL The great staple product of St. Thomas is bay oil, from which bay rum is made. The oil is a highly concentrated essence from the green bay tree and a pint of it diluted with warm water will make several quarts of ordinary bay rum, which is of world-wide use to gentlemen who shave and to every one who bathes. The inhabitants live in well-kept houses, many of them mere huts, and a noticeable feature is the almost general absence of window panez. As it never becomes cool enough to make it necessary to keep out the air, the only means of
closing the windows is by means of barred
shutters. In passing the houses it is hard to
keep from associating these iron-barred windows with jails, and an occasional black or creole face peering through them only height ens the idea. The people who live in the country part of the island and work on the sugar tations live in roughly built wooden but with thatched roofs and unpainted sides. Yet these huts are nearly always kept scrupulously clean and the small "front yard" generally con tains a pretty garden of roses that rival thei northern hot house cousins in everything ex Living is cheap in the islands and the good natured negro can generally find someth to eat, if it is only bananas and oranges, and can always make his 'cassava bread' the fruit of the "bread fruit" tree. As no cold weather ever shakes his rheumatic joints, he need "have no fear wherewithal to clothe himself," and many of them exhibit very little fear on this subject, but as a rule the women dress

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAND. To "assist the governor general in the ardu ous duties of governing the colony" there is a colonial council, partly appointed by the King of Denmark and partly elected by the inhabitants, so that affairs run very smoothly, with only occasional trouble over the entrance of some quarantined steamer or the killing of an There are quite a number of white residents many of them charming people who are ever willing to extend every courtesy in their power to visitors desirous of seeing the island and among them the United States consul, Col Horne of New Haven, Conn., holds a leading place, and it has not yet been discovered that he has attempted to pass any wooden nutmegs on the simple negroes of the island or taught

gaudily and wear a turban or headdress of some gay-colored silk or cotton material.

them to make wooden cocoanuts.

If the United States needs a coaling station in the West Indies, and no one doubts that there could scarcely be a place better fitted for it than the mountain-ribbed island of St. Thomas, with its sheltered harbor, and at \$3,000,000 it would be a paying investment to any purchaser. As I journey on to other islands of the Lesser Antilles I leave St. Thomas with regret, and its wide, clean streets and airy arched houses form a memory of comfort and ealth unsurpassed by anything I have seen in

Another New Departure. The building adjoining THE STAR office ha ecently been renovated and greatly improved and today was opened up as one of the branch stores of the Emerson Shoe Company. The famous company makes a specialty of fine famous company makes a specialty of fine-grade shoes, at common-sense prizes, for men and boys. They make footwear ranging from \$3 up, and each grade is guaranteed to be as good as can be made at the price. The Wash-ington branch is only one of twenty that this company has established in all sections of the at the French, at the time of their occupancy the island, called Charlotte Amalia. It is a management of Mr. B. E. Murray, formerly of Howell & Murray, and he has associated with him Mr. E. K. Stewart, who has been for years in the shoe to thills. Right in the center of the town ands the Hotel du Commerce, the chief hotel du Commerce, the chief hotel du commerce and the hotel du Washington under most favorable auspices and promises to be a great success. The building itself is admirably adapted for its present uses, and the central location it occupies makes it all the more desirable. The store room has been handsomely fitted up in oak, with large oak chairs for the convenience of the customers in trying on shoes, and the large front window has been finished in marble and supplied with heavy plate glass mirrors so that it makes a has been finished in marble and supplied with heavy plate-glass mirrors, so that it makes a splendid place for the display of goods. The company has introduced a popular novelty in setting up a shoe-blacking stand, where Emer-son shoes are blacked free of charge. The Emerson shoes are made in the great factories of E. E. Grover & Co. at Brockley, Marshy of R. B. Grover & Co. at Brockton, Mass., by skillful workmen and under the personal super-vision of the firm. The lasts that are used have been adopted after years of experience, and the company guarantees that only the highest grades of leather are used in these shoes. One of the results of this system is that the shoes are smooth and well shaped and need no "breaking in." The company sells di rect to the purchaser, so the latter practicall gets his goods at factory prices.

Written for The Evening Star. Dream Song.

To ____, on Saint Valentine's Day. Last night, my dear, I dreamed of you, And still more sweet, if that can be, More fresh, more fair, your image seemed

Than even the bright reality, As on me, like a star, it beamed, The while, my dear, I dreamed of you

For I have loved you long and well; But, to my grief, my love you spurned With scorn my worship did repel.

"Ah, love for love should be returned," I said, "and I have loved you weil!" A lovely anger in your eye;

Angry had been the words von spoke You left me sad to muse and sigh, And, filled with anguish, i awoke, And thought of those harsh words you spoke

At length I said: " Twas but a dream, Nor dreams can shake such love as mine Besides, by contraries they go, And so in this I see a sign That bodes me anything but woe

Thanks, friendly dream, for such a sign!" It is a sign that not in vain My heart does so with passion burn For you, my dear, and only you.

I pray you, love for love return, And let my dream be proved untrue. And let its sign be not in vain.

Montcolia, D. C., St. Valentine's eve. The Vast Number of Railroad Cars From the Brandon Bucksaw.

A curious statistician has computed that if all the locomotives in the United States were coupled together they would make a train of soud iron and steel over 300 miles long. Add the passenger cars and we would have 300 miles more of wood and iron. This would give us a gigantic passenger train 600 miles in length, counting both engines and cars. Should we want a huge "mixed" train we might add the "box," "flat" and every other kind of freight car and our train would then have a total length of over 7,000 miles! The passenger cars in this gigantic train would be capable of seating gigantic train would be capable of 1,500,600 people and upon the freight cars could be loaded the weight of all the pyramids of Egypt and all the state capital buildings in of Egypt and all the state capital builthe United States besides.

would cover an inch of surface. The blonde belle has about 140,000 filaments to comband brush, while the red-haired beauty has to be satisfied with 88,000; the brown-haired dam-sel may have 109,000; the black-haired but

How Officers Amuse Themselves and Are Occupied in Washington.

WARRIORS AT THE CAPITAL

Why-The Power of Influence in Their Behalf-Society Favorites-Duty and Pleasure-Curiosities of Warfare.

Written for The Evening Star

HE BURSTING OF the war bubble has been a disappointment to both army and navy. Especially the lower grades in either branch of the service, eager for promotion, have hoped for a chance to fight. From their point of view a struggle with a foreign power was big with brilliant possibili-

ties. Pollowing a declaration of hostilities must come an expansion of Uncle Sam's force on the seas, requiring corresponding elevations in rank, ensigns becoming lieutenants, lieutenants being transformed into lieutenant commanders, commanders sprouting into full-fledged captains and so on—all by a stroke of the magic sword of . Bellona. With soldier officers the expectation was not less enthusiastic. Even old retired seniors—grizzled warriors and vegetating sea dogs—were not displeased at the prospect of being recalled to active service, with a chance to gain further laurels.

Officers of the army and navy upon retirement are very apt to find themselves painfully ment are very apt to find themselves paintuny in want of occupation. Numbers of them drift to this city and remain. It is said that good to this city and remain. It is said that good ington, because those are just the men whom ington, because those are just the men whom the chiefe of bureaus are anxious to secure. Americans when they die go to Paris. Likewise good army and navy officers when they retire come to Washington. In this city, where there is a steadily increasing population of idlers, these old military and naval "roosters," as their disrespectful juniors call them, find a more congenial atmosphere than in the industrial centers. There is here very little of the atmosphere of shop. The only big shop is kept by the government and in it they take an interest. They command a strong social influence and are looked up to in what is called the "army and looked the "army and navy set."
Some of these remarks apply equally well to

the younger officers in active service. If they are fond of pleasure they can get more of it here than anywhere else. This is a holiday town, and, beyond question, the jolliest place in America to live in. There is more gayety in New York in the aggregate, but less of it in proportion to the population. That is one resproportion to the population. That is one reason why very rich people from all parts of the United States come to Washington to dwell.

HAVE OTHERS TO DO THEIR WORK. Army and navy officers do not ordinarily lead such a busy life as to unfit them for pleasure. Take the commander of a vessel of war for example. He occupies a cabin by himself while at sea and has a navigator to do his work. The navigator in his turn has a lieutenant to do his work, who has an under lieutenant to do his, who has an ensign to do his, who has a warrant officer to do his, who has innumerable Jack Tars to do his. Or, if the case of a staff officer be considered, behold, for instance, the paymaster, who pays the crew, buys provisions and is responsible for the funds. To facilitate the performance of his arduous labors he has a clerk. In order that the clerk may not be overworked he has under him a paymaster's yeoman, who in his turn has a Jack-o'-Dust. soas one might say, over which the burden of du ty is made to slide easily. In the army it is up their leaves of absence and spend months at a time in Washington bothering the officials in authority with their novel but useless ideas for hollow bullets or what not.

the same way more or less.

It is a mistake to imagine that young army or navy men lead a gay life of idleness at Washington. On the contrary, they are obliged to work much harder than when they are doing active service in the field or at sea. They have office hours at their departments from 9 until office hours at their departments from 9 until 4, just as do the clerks in the civil employment. In fact, their labors are of a clerical nature, the only difference being that their work is of such a kind as ordinary clerks could not perform. It requires technical knowledge peculiar to se and manufacture of guns, &c. The sailor old who is seen to such advantage in his uniform on a ship's deck does not cut so fine a figure at a desk or drawing table. Nevertheless, this is the sort of duty he must perform while stationed here. His toil is not easy and must be faithful, else he will quickly be given a warning, and should he continue lazy he will be sent to sea. Under such circumstances the chief of navigation is not likely to give him a particularly agreeable assignment on the ocean

LIKE TO BE STATIONED IN WASHINGTON.

However, many officers in the army and navy are very willing to work harder for the sake of being stationed in Washington. It is chiefly the young men, fond of society, who seek duty here. Their hours of toil, from 9 to 4, leave plenty of time for social enjoyment. Having youth and good constitutions, they are portunities for such pleasures are excellent here. There is a great and unsatisfied demand for beaux, and striplings in the service of Uncle Sam find themselves much petted and spoiled. Of rich girls there is a plentiful supply—so plentiful, indeed, that anything reasonably preposse sing in pantaloons has more than a fair chance of capturing one for himself.

It would not be fair to say that navy men as a class are fortune hunters. Nevertheless, it is very certain that no other fellows seem to have a chance with them, in the parents of rich a chance with them in the pursuit of rich women. They pick up an astonishing number of girls with money. One reason for this is doubtless that they cannot afford to do otherwise. It is an old story that Washington is the doubtless that they cannot afford to do otherwise. It is an old story that Washington is the best hunting ground for fortunes in petiteoats in the world. Most of the gay young women here are wealthy simply because society is composed chiefly of rich people who can afford to entertain. Taking into view the small chances for promotion, as things are at present, how can a junior lieutenant with a salary of \$1,500 to \$1,500 a year and small prospects of anyfor promotion, as things are at present, how can a prior lieutenant with a salary of \$1,500 to \$1,500 a year and small prospects of anything better be so imprudent as to sneeze at a bride with a big dower? Navy men, wherever they go, are great favorites. Abroad they are always welcomed and see the best of life. Of one popular officer, well known at the capital, it is said that he has led the german in every

port of Europe. OLDER OFFICERS DON'T LIKE IT Older officers are very apt to regard duty in Washington as undesirable and to avoid it when they can. A navy man on shore has only four-fifths of sea pay, and his expenses are very much greater. It is the same way in the army much greater. It is the same way in the army practically. A lieutenant in that branch of the service has exactly the same remuneration as if he were at a frontier post, where he is provided with a house free of charge, has a stove put in by the government—he used to have fuel supplied also—and has nothing to may for remark. have fuel supplied also—and has nothing to pay for repairs. Under such conditions the only drains upon his purse are for food, clothing and very moderate personal expenses. When here, as an equivalent for these allowances, he is given \$24 a month, being granted by the regulations two rooms at \$12 each. Obviously he cannot hire a decent place to sleep in for that sum. Clothes cost him much more, and if he has a wife and children they must be well dressed. Unless he is

him much more, and if he has a wife and chil-dren they must be well dressed. Unless he is so unusually fortunate as to have money of his own his nose is put financially very close to the grindstone. There are exceptions to every rule, and in this case such are found in a few assign-ments to Fort Myer and the Washington bar-racks, the former being for cavalry and the latter for artillery. One object wherefore Fort Myer was made a military post was to provide an easy station for men who had done particu-larly arduous and faithful work in the west. these two places the advantages of a post and the pleasures of a city are enjoyed together. THE DUTY NO SINECURE.

For army officers Washington duty is far harder than at a post on the frontier. While stationed in the west they must go on occa sional scouts, sometimes involving unples experiences and once in a while losing scrips. Ordinarily, however, a couple of however a day is all they have to do, their couple of the c work a day is all they have to do, their chief trouble being to relieve the tedium of idleness, assisted by such gentle stimulants as poker and whisky. Here they are obliged to toil from 9 until 4. The youngsters may find pleasure in society, but those who are married and middleaged, after spending all day at their desks, do not care for terrapin, champagne and dancing, but are rather disposed to the superior luxury of a dressing gown and slippers.

There is not so much favoritism exercised in the assignment of officers of the army and navy to do duty at Washington as is generally imagined. It cannot be said that influence, social and political, has not its weight. The officers of the government who have charge of the making of details and assignments are, after all, human, and are as susceptible as most men to the persuasion

which good dinners and balls exercise. A gallant veteran who will withstand the bullets of an enemy may cower and cringe before a broadside of invitations. Especially is this true if he has a wife with social aspirations. A good fellow whose cousin or aunt has a fine house at the capital and entertains judicially is pretty apt to be ordered for duty here, if the favor is asked for. Powerful Congressmen are not always appealed to in vain to such an end.

But assignments thus secured are merel A CAREFUL RECORD KEPT.

Thus the choice of officers for duty in Washington has come to be almost wholiy a selection of the fittest, although now and then will doubtless occur a marked and unfortunate ex-ception. Furthermore, a survival of the most deserving is secured with a carefulness and impartiality such as are unknown in any civil business. Every man in the army and navy has a complete record preserved of his doings from the time he entered the service up to date. A page is kept for him at his department here, on which is put down everything good or bad that is reported of him. Not the recording angel himself could keep a more strict account for and against a person. From that page nothing is ever rubbed out and there is no such thing as turning over a new leaf. Minute matters are set down in these histories which the individuals concerned have themselves forgot-ten. Even letters praising or condemning the officer, though received from irresponsible outsiders, are duly jacketed with the papers kept respecting him. Should be ever get into trouble and be tried by court-martial the entire record is brought up to bear merciless witness for and

reau of navigation for the navy. Such matters

there is no good reason why he should not have it his request is granted. It is very curious how tastes differ in such matters. One indi-vidual will intensely dislike the notion of going to Alaska, while another will regard the same assignment as decidedly a lark. Ordinarily the South Atlantic squadron is considered a most quite the opposite. So the easiest way, and the best one, therefore, is to accommodate all con-cerned as well as may be. The notion is com-monly held that navy men want all the shore, duty they can get, but this is very far from being true. When they seek it, it is usually for no other reason than because they have family ties. In nine cases out of ten those who are not so blessed prefer to be at sea. Better pay is one reason, but there is such a thing as a passion for the best one, therefore, is to accommodate all conocean, which officers in the service are very apt to acquire, so that they are never really happy when they are not sailing on blue water. Hardly have they been a month or two on land before they become discontented and are anxious to be afloat again. Some of the best men in the navy procure assignments here for no other purpose than to do earnest work in the way of experiment and invention. New types of guns, devices for navigation, torpedoes, explosives, &c., absorb their attention. The same is true of the army. On the other hand, there are not a few inventive persons who save up their leaves of absence and spend months at

HIGHER ARMY GRADES. In the army after the grade of colonel has been reached further promotion can only be conferred by the President of the United States. Accordingly, when the place of brigadier general is to be filled, great pressure of influence, political and otherwise, is brought to bear upon the executive. There are said to have been political and otherwise, is brought to bear upon the executive. There are said to have been several instances where such appointments have been determined by the persuasion of women. Nevertheless, it may safely be asserted that in nearly every instance choice is directed by no The claims of the candidates from whom one is to be selected are put side by side and the chief

ing man.

Washington will always be a favorite loafing place for army and navy men during their seasons of leisure while ashore. There has just been completed a very handsome United Service club house at the corner of Connecticut avenue and I street. Though conspicuously ugly outside, it is beautifully fitted up within. Officers are also eligible for membership in the on exceptionally favorable terms, no initiation fee being demanded from them. Their favor-ite hotel is the Ebbitt House, while for thirty years past the eating house most frequented by them has been Kiotz's restaurant, on G street. PRIZE MONEY FOR NAVAL OFFICERS.

One attraction which war would possess for officers in the navy would be prize money. officers in the navy would be prize money. Sometimes it is big. A merchant vessel or transport belonging to the enemy and taken on the high seas may yield a great fortune to the captors, who are by law entitled to one-half the booty, the other half being turned into the treasury. If the prey is a ship of war, of equal or superior size, the victors receive the entire value. Rear Admiral Porter was allowed from \$200.000 to \$200.000 for prize was allowed. from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for prize money gained during his operations on the Mississippi

to give up wearing cumbrous armor in battle, to sneeze at a so the war ship of the future will be vastly men, wherever swift and so lightly built in compartments that shots will pass clean through her without doing much damage. The most important weapon will very likely be automatic torpedoes, travel-ing under water, contact with one of which is

ing under water, contact with one of which is destruction to the greatest ship.

The history of mankind is the history of the development of weapons for war, by improvements in which one nation has overcome another and survived. Though the tale may not be safely vouched for, Archimedes is said to have set fire to the vessels of the enemy besieging Syracuse by directing upon them the rays of the sun concentrated with great burning mirrors. Hannibal, in a naval battle, threw among the Romans earthen pots filled with venomous serpents, which broke and so frightened the foe with their writhing contents that they fied. In the middle ages "Greek fire"—described as "a bitummous fluid"—was commonly employed in fights on the water, that they fied. In the middle ages "Greek fire"—described as "a bituminous fluid"—was commonly employed in fights on the water, being made to spout from copper pipes set at the prows of the ships. These tubes were placed in the mouths of fantastic monsters, whose gaping jaws were thus made to vomit formidable flames. On one occasion, however, during an action in the Bosphorus between the fleet of the Emperor Alexius and the crusaders under Baldwin, the fire used in this fashion by the Greek admiral burned up his own vessels.

FRIGHTENED BY GREEK FIRE. During the crusades the valiant soldiers of the cross were dreadfully frightened by Greek fire, which was used against them chiefly in the shape of "flory dragons as big as hogsheads, which flew through the air with a noise like thunder." Whenever the saintly French king saw one coming he fell flat on the ground and prayed for protection against a heathenish weapon which could not be met with sword or a lance. War rockets, of which this was a species, were very anciently employed in Asia, where gunpowder is believed to have been known 1,300 years before the method of its manufacture was discovered in Europe. Some of them were provided with iron barbs, which clung to any wooden buildings struck and set fire to everything combustible. In more modern times it was supposed that rockets would eventually take the place of artillery, requiring neguns, but merely light metal tubes for directing them, but they have disappointed expectations. fire, which was used against them chiefly in the

One of the most remarkable battle expedi-

stones and machines for casting flaming dark which were terrible indeed when the roofs which were terrible indeed when the roofs of buildings were almost invariably of thatch. The alingers of the Balearic Isles were the most skillful marksmen with their peculiar weapon that ever lived, and it is related that they used to train their children in its use by denying them food as a penalty for missing the target. The Chinese were formerly accustomed to rely largely upon poice in buttle. There rely largely upon noise in battle. They were astonished upon encountering British troops for the first time to find that the latter were But assignments thus secured are merely temporary uniess those who hold them work hard and exhibit ability. The officers in charge of the business of detailing usually pick out for service at the departments here men of known capacity. Fools and idlers are not desired by the heads of bureaus who control such affairs. They may get places, and often do, through family or other influence with the Secretary or with other persons in authority, but they cannot hold them long. Not the most powerful member of Congress, though he be even chairman of the appropriations committee in House or Senate, can secure more for a protege than a brief favor, which soon lapses with the undeserving. The Secretaries of the Navy and of War have striven to take such matters out of politics.

A CAREFUL RECORD KEPT.

man officers.
One interesting fact not widely known is tha one interesting fact not widely known is that
the "repeating" arm was invented as far back
as the reign of Queen Elizabeth. In 1718 a
breech-loading revolving cannon was produced
by an ingenius Britisher, which had chambers
providing for the use of "round bullets for
the Christians and square bullets for Turks."
A reproduction of it is to be shown by the
patent office at the world's fair.

From the London Glob We do not know that any one has ever gravely claimed to have seen one. And yet there is no doubt whatever that there are such beings. Else who is it that wrenches off our shirt buttons, mislays our keys, makes our pen ask rude questions as to his parentage and habits. But the kobolds have been spared this last indignity. There are no specimens in the Natural History Museum. There are some people who even doubt their existence and offer the most ridiculously commonplace explana-tions of their pranks. Have you never found,

when dressing in the morning, that everything you don't want conspires to get into your way, and everything you do want persists in getting out of it? Your razor jibs and notches your the chiefs of bureaus are anxious to secure.

The business of detailing lies with the adjutant general's office for the army and with the buchin; the soap splashes into your eye; your tooth brush tumbles into the water jug and your have to dredge for it, and, finally, your collar stud breaks loose and rolls into limbo. You hunt it wildly round and round the room, and, finally, run it to earth in the farthest corner under the bed. Your wife will make irrelevant under the bed. Your wife will make irrelevant remarks about late hours, and refer inconsequently to that horrid club. But she is quite wrong. It is the kobolds.

And have you never carefully put a letter away in a particular place, expecting to find it there when you came back? When you did come back, have you never found that the let-

ter had disappeared? Have you not gone ravening about the house, burrowing behind book cases, prodding corners and overturnin furniture, while your wife follows behind an mildly deplores your untidy habits? Again she is ludicrously wrong. It is the kobolds who took that letter when you were not looking, and put it in your pocket, where it has been all the

The kobolds love to make for you in morning when you are in a hurry to catch the early train. They start by breaking a boot lace, they hide your gloves and brush your hat lace, they hide your gloves and brush your hat the wrong way, they blow out the match when you try to light a cigarette and fasten your coat tails in the front door as you slam it behind you. On the way to the station the ferrule of your umbrella catches in something. You stop with a jerk and look down. It appears to be only a grating, but it is really a kobold. When they have once decided to spend a day with a man he seldom gets rid of them before he turns into bed at night. He is certain to lose his temper before long, and then it is all up with him. There is nothing that amuses them so much as a man in a temper. They get little bits of mud from passing hansoms and dab them on his collar. They gather smuts from the chumneys and smear them on his nose them on his collar. They gather smuts from the chimneys and smear them on his nose where he can see them, but cannot localize them; they collect little puffs of wind from street corners and blow his hat over area rail-ings and into mud heaps; they tweek his neck-tie into grotesque shapes and drop his eye-glasses into the gutter. They dance invisibly round him pulling pushing poking pinching.

fish bones; they loosen the top of the pepper castor, and empty its contents into his plate. They get into his favorite pipe and clog, it so that it will not draw. His wife explains as he sits puffing and blowing at the mouthpiece, that this wouldn't happen if he cleaned his pipes out regularly—which is absurd; because he was going to clean them all out tomorrow. Whatever he attempts, the kobolds are beforehand with him. They make the gas wobble and the chairs oreak, and put hairs in his new, until the chairs creak, and put hairs in his pen, until he finally gives in and decides that the day is a failure. And then he finds they have hidden

failure. And then he finds they have hidden the corkscrew. They are humorous little creatures, without much malice in them.

The steady-going, methodical man they leave alone—the man who cuts up paper into little squares over night to wipe his razor on in the morning and puts all his cab fares down in an account book before going to bed. It is the erratic, unsystematic fellow whom they attack, the man who stuffs checks into chimney ornaments and does not fold up his night shirt in the morning. The cold-blooded man, when he misses one train, buys a paper and waits patiently for the next; the kobolds leave him alone. It is no fun pinching a man who won't stamp and swear.

stamp and swear.

Women. I suppose, suffer from them occasionally; but not as men do. Women are inured to discomfort from the time when they gather up their back hair, let out the final tuck in their skirts and claim to be seventeen. A being who can stagger about all day on a pair of four-inch heels, with her waist crushed in a whalebone frame, who can submit to have her nose tickled by a veil and her heels clogged with petticoats, never losing her temper or saying a wicked word—such a being can afford no sport for the kobolds. They would die of ennui. But to a man they are a very real torment. Not that they break his legs, gouge out his eyes, or inflict any irreparable injury upon him; but they are at the bottom of all those

him; but they are at the bottom of all those petty worries and minor accidents which make up the sum of a miserable day.

The kobolds are invisible; unfett by every one but their victim. Our big trials, our knock-down griefs, bad as they are, have generally some dramatic interest in them, and insure a sympathetic public. We, commonplace persons as we doubtless are, could face a dramatic emergency with credit; we could like Regulus. leave Rome and friends, "interobatantes cateryas," for Carthage and the torturer, if we knew that the historian with his note book was watching the proceedings. We could brave the stage lightning, and plunge off the practicable rock into the boiling tide after the heroine, when the gallery boys are holding their breath for the appreciative whistle. We could all be heroes with the lime light on us. But a man must be more or less light on us. But a man must be more or less than human to spend a day with the kobolds and keep his temper.

From the Philedelphia Press.

It was a dear girl who bought a watch jeweler who warranted it for a year. "What oes that mean?" she asked. "We keep it in order for you," was the ply. "That is, we regulate it. Of course, if

you broke the crystal, or anything like that, "Oh, of course "

"Oh, of course."

In a week or so she was back. "My watch does go so queerly," she said.

"If you wiil allow me to look at it, madam—"
"Oh, yes," and she began fumbling at her dress, a blush mounting brighter and brighter. Presently, with an air of determination, she buttoned her loose-front sealskin, and, slipping her hands under it, continued operations on a more extensive scale. In a minute there was a little rustle and a sharp click on the floor. She picked up the watch, quite as a matter of course, and passed it to the clerk, who stood aghast.

"It keeps all sorts of time," she said sweetly.

The clerk suppressed his feelings, and only remarked mildly:

"A watch needs very careful handling."

"Oh, I'm ever so careful of mine. I always carry it inside my dress so it won't get acratched. I ought to have brought it in before, it has been going so badly, but I left it under my pillow the other morning and Mary changed the bed and it got into the laundry. It wasn't boiled, you know—just scaked a little while. Mary is very careful and she found it."

"I fear, miss, we shall be obliged to charge you for adjusting this watch. It seems to be in rather a bad way."

"Oh, I think that is awful. It was warranted for a whole year, and here I've had it only about a week and I have hardly used it at all!"

What are you going to do with such peo-

"Because then you could oring nome that and things, an' we could go in and get cookies when we wented to. Or if you were a mea man, or a greecery man, or a carpenter an made nice things, or a blacksmith shop manthat would be awful fine. Bay, pape, is it as a cook what you do?"

THE ARBUTUS IN EDEN.

autiful Plant Followed Eve Into OF ALL THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE Lore Society none were more beautiful or more thoroughty appreciated than the paper by Representative C. E. Belknap of Grand Rapids, Mich. Mr. Belknap has made a specialty of Indian legends and these he tells in a popular manner; often odd, but always graceful. His latest is "The Arbutus in Eden." "One story often leads to another. The In-

dian legend of the creation of the arbutus calls to mind a fairy tale, 'The Arbutus in the "This may have been in print some bygone

day; I cannot say, but I pick it up now from the tangled ends of a cobweb memory, often bathed in the dews of my boyhood days. "When God created the earth some parts of it

were better than others, and He selected the most beautiful of all the places and there caused to grow the rarest plants of all His creations of flowers, birds and animals; and to prevent trespassing upon this favored ground He created a great wall, so high and of such fine material that no vicious beast or noxicus weed could climb over it. To get in and out of this delightful inclosure there was but one gate, and that was accurely locked—even against bad weather.
"Then God created the superior suimal, man,

to rule over this heaven on earth ADAM AND EVE.

"Now, I do not ask you to believe that Adam was created a full-grown man, or that Eve, who was created to be his companion, was a fullgrown woman, and that they had no youth. It would be cruei for me to ask you to think that they had no babyhood, no boy and girisplutter and tickles us in inaccessible regions of our back when we want to look important? If we could catch one we should pin him down, classify him, put him under a glass case and ask rude questions as to his parentage and habits. But the kobolds have been spared this traps to catch ratbits and squirrels, or throwing stones at the birds.
"Eve was full of curiosity, and when she was

not buey in any other way was always looking for the key to unlock the garden gate.'

"The two roamed at will about the beautiful grounds. There were no signs 'Keep off the grass,' so they could cut across lots without fear of punishment. EVE'S PLANT, THE ARBUTUS.

"And so the happy days went by until Eve scated and incurable." had grown to be 'sweet sixteen.' Eve having no mother—for you must remember she was an orphan—had many little ills and troubles that she could not tell Adam, and then there were times when Adam was cross, and at all such times she sought a sweet, tender plant that grew upright upon a hillside ne brook. This plant grew up each year in height with Eve, for it grew upon the very spot where Eve was born, and Eve used to clasp it in her arms and confide to it her secrets.

WHAT EVE LEARNED.

"From it Eve was taught modesty, purity, charity and confidence. From it she was taught to clothe herself with leaves and that she should use the gifts of the Creator to benefit herself and Adam. Eve and the plant, which Adam had named the arbutus, were like mother and child, and so when Adam came to the plant one day looking for Eve, for she was always there when not with Adam, Arbutus said to him: 'Go thou, Adam, and from the skins of animals make thyself a garment; thou art no longer a child, but to manhood grown; thou alone of all that God has made art naked. Look at the animals, the birds, the fishes, the trees, and even the ground is clothed. Take lesson by me, a plant that cannot move about, with naught to protect me, nothing in the shape of hands to gather treasures; yet have I not beautiful clothing, and have I not gathered fragrance from all the plants and flowers in the garden? Put my i thy face and you will smeil the fragrance of the clover, the rose and even the sweetness of the tree tops. Go, and by thy industry fit thy-self to become the husband of my child, whom have taught all my virtues.'

ADAM AND HIS SNARE.

finest and best in the land.' And getting his him obey. mares and his weapons he left, saying; When He said that the boy was not quite three I return I will be fit to claim Eve as my bride. years old and ought to be easily managed. It And as Adam came near the great gate looking for an animal with fire fur to make himself a being, which, as was proven afterward, was the devil. Now, as this devil had lately dined on beer, onions and sulphur Adam couldn't stand the smell, and he was obliged to let him go. And thus did the infernal one secure entrance into the Garden of Eden, where his presence soon created trouble, as we nearly all know, and as a result of the scandal that followed Adam and Eve were expelled, along with the devil, from the paradise; the great gate opened for the first time, and when it swung back in place Arbutus had lost sight of Eve forever; but, mourning like a mother for her loved child, it made its way to the gate, but as it could not swing it open it got down upon the ground and found the crack that let the devil in, and it crawled qutside the garden walls, and once out it feared to resume beer, onions and sulphur Adam couldn't str garden walls, and once out it feared to resume its upright position and it concealed its beautiful white blossoms under its leaves and went all about the world looking for Eve, shunning and fearing man, growing only in the forests in secluded places, refusing to accept cultiva-tion, but sending out its fragrance and blos-soms in the faith that Eve will be found

NEW USE OF THE SPECTROSCOPE. It Can Measure the Movements of Stars as Well as Tell Their Composition.

From the Pall Mall Budget. As an instance of the extraordinary results obtainable by the use of the spectroscope Sir Robert Ball describes how astronomers have at last got equal with the vagaries of Algol-the Demon Star. The peculiarities of this celestial demon are that for two days and ten hours the star remains of uniform luster, being ranked about the second magnitude: then a decline of brightness sets in and the star in a few hours parts with three-fifths of its brightness. These changes are visible to the naked eye and have been known for canturies. But nobody known been known for centuries. But nobody knew how to account for them. At last Vogel has made the star reveal its mystery:

"Applying the improved spectographic process to Algol, he determined on one night that Algol was retreating at a speed of twenty-six miles a second. When he repeated his observations he found that Algol was again moving with the same velocity, but this time the movement was toward the earth instead of from it. Now, it is impossible for a star to run along a straight line for a certain distance, stop, turn back, again return. Such movement is simply forbidden by the laws of motion. But there is no objection to the supposition that Algol is moving in a path which is nearly if not exactly a circle. During the description of one semicircle Algol is coming toward us, while during the other semicircle it is going from us, and thus the observed facts of the movement are conciliated with the laws of motion."

But the results of the new astronomy in connection with Algol are not exhausted yet. Such a movement as has been above proved admits of no other interpretation save that there must be another mighty body in the immediate vicinity of Algol:

"We had already seen reasan to believe in the possibility of the presence of such a companion for the Demon Star, simply from the fact of its variability. There cannot be any longer a doubt that the mystery has been solvd. Algol must be attended by a companion star, which, if not absolutely as devoid of intrinsic light as the earth or the moon, is nevertheless dark, relatively to Algol. Once in each period of revolution this obscure body intrudes between the earth and Algol, cutting off a portion of the direct light from the star, and thus producing the well-known effect."

But the new astronomy not only proves the existence of this unseen star, it measures and weighs it as well. "Here is an object," says Sir Robert Ball, "which we have never seen, and apparently never can expect to see, but yet we have been able to weigh it, to measure it "Applying the improved spectographic pro cess to Algol, he determined on one night that

Children's ideas of usefulne

are primitive, to say the least. A Boston

of such powers. To these must be added no way to step out. spontaneous sub-conscious mental imagery.

Catholic church of every nationality the belief produces a mysterious dread, against which men and women cross themselves and resort to various rites supposed to be efficacious.

Where colonies of immigrants have remained isolated, retaining their own language, the influence of witcheraft is more easily traced. The interior of Pennsylvania affords better illustrations of this, and on a larger scale, than any other state. It has been but two or three vears since suit was brought by a man against is mother in one of the counties of Pennsylvania to recover damages for a dog which he charged her with having killed by witcheraft, and he not only brought suit, but obtained judgment from a justice of the peace. Various witnesses testified as to their experiences in witcheraft and only one said that he had never had a friend or relative who was bewitched.

In divers villages of Pennsylvania, some of them in the Dunkard settlement, are women who are supposed to be witches. Some are shrewd enough not to apply their arts for strangers, but to those whom they know, as sated in an article in the New York San some years ago, they will sell charms to ward off tightning from buildings, dry up the wells of the produces and resort to tend the poor padker walks from the street and you will all the poor walker walks from his knees and the good one from his hips.

Watch the passer-by on the street and you will be good one from his hips.

Watch the passer-by on the street and you will be good one from his hips.

Watch the passer-by on the street and you will accome see the difference. Nine men out of ten will bend the knee very considerably in walking, stepping straight out with both hips on the same line, and the toe will be the first to strike the ground.

The tenth man will bend his knees very little, just enough to clear the ground, and will swing the leg from the shoulder, and not the toe. A slight apring is given from the allow. By doing so he calls upon the muscles that are strongest to bear the strain, and increases the leng

years ago, they will sell charms to ward off rightning from buildings, dry up the wells of the enemies of applicants, force cows to give bloody milk, cause sickness in the family, destroy beauty, separate man and wife and re-unite estranged lovers.

In the interior parts of the southern states, where a large proportion of the white popula-tion cannot read, and there is little admixture of society, there are "witch doctors," who, assuming that all disease is caused by witches,

secure thriving practice in counteracting their influence. The Philadelphia Times on the authority of a reputable correspondent, who gives many facts to sustain his representations, says: "For generations the poor whites have believed in witches, and the belief is deep-The African population brought this belief

from the dark continent, and it persists among them to this day, though the progress of reli-gion and education is doing something to I have recently noted in various parts of the and cloaks, were filled with pity. United States more than fifty suits instituted by persons against those who they claimed had be witched them, but under existing laws the accused could not be prosecuted except where money had been obtained under false protenses, or overt acts of crime had been sug-

gested or committed. During pedestrian tours in New England, various parts of the west, and in every southern state, I have frequently stayed for the night at the houses of poor farmers, laborers, fishermen and trappers. In such journeys I have invariably listened to the tales of the neighborhood, stimulating them by suggestion, and have found the boltef in witch-craft cropping out in the oldest towns to News craft cropping out in the oldest towns in New ingland, sometimes within the very shadow of the buildings where a learned ministry less existed from the settlement of the country, and public schools have furnished means of education to all classes. The horseshoes seen in nearly every county and often in every town-ship upon the houses of persons suggested the old horseshoe beneath which Lord Nelson, who had long kept it nailed to the must of the Victory, received his death wound at Trafalgar.

FOUGHT IT OUT AT ONCE.

Mr. Brinker Expatiates on Firmness With-Unruly Children and Then Tri es It. From the Chicago Tribune.

She said that she was utterly worn out when he asked her how she was feeling; that that "Adam, kneeling at the side of Arbutus, said: boy was enough to drive a saint distracted and I will do thy bidding. I will go and get the that she didn't know what she could do to make

was his opinion that she had not sufficient for an animal with fire fur to make himself a garment he saw a strange animal crawling into the garden under the gate. For all the great gate was made by the Master, yet there had been left a crack under it and an evil spirit.

was his opinion that she had not sufficient firmness, that she gave in too easily when the boy began to cry. And then and there he undertook to give her a lesson in the handling tightly across was a little rubber band.

"When I will do not sufficient firmness, that she gave in too easily when the had off he showed that two holes were punched on either side of the derby, and stretched tightly across was a little rubber band. Willie was in his high chair at the table and

Willie wanted something. Willie was informed "You're ver, that he could not have it, and Willie began to tor remarked. "Stop that, Willie," he said sharply, but Willie did not stop.
"Stop that or you'll have to leave the table!" he exclaimed. Still Willie did not

he exclaimed. Still Willie did not "Now, I presume you would give in," he said to his wife, "out that isn't my way. We'll fight it right out on this line, and the next time I speak he'll know I mean business.

She said nothing and he got up, took Willie out of his high chair and put him down on the oor. "When you stop caying," he said, severely, "I'll put you back in your chair." But Willie kept right on; in fact, he yelled louder than ever.
"Willie," said his father at last, "if you don't stop that you'll have to leave the room. I sup-pose you think that's cruel, Jane," he added, "but if we fight it out now we'll have no further

trouble. It's the only way." She made no reply and he again got up and carried the struggling, screaming Willie into another room.

"When you can be quiet, Willie, you may come back," he said.

lt was five or ten minutes later that he looked up from his after-dinner coffee and asked:
"Do you suppose the boy will make himself sick by his crying?"
She shook her head.
He stood it for a few minutes longer and then

He stood it for a few minutes longer and then he gave in.

"Perhaps, Mra. Brinker!" he exclaimed as he opened the door and brought the boy back—"perhaps you are heartiess enough to let your son cry himself into a fit. Perhaps you have no nerves to be unstrung by such an infernal yelling. Hush, Willie, it's all right now—but I am built on a different plan. Mrs. Brinker, on an entirely different

"If you fight it out once, you know"—
He put Willie down on her lap, grabbed his hat and started out, and as he was closing the front door he heard her call softly after him: "Whenever you have any valuable the management of children, James"— Then he slammed the door. If he had waited be would have found that she had Willie quiet in five minutes and asleep in ten."

"No, you won't," answered the other, who was a large and well-built chap. "I'm three times seven, I am. Come on," and he caught his friend by the coat collar and dragged him along. The attendant ran to the house officer and told him what had occurred. When the feative billiardist reached the rotunda he found that official, accompanied by two stalwart porters, waiting for him. They took him between them and started for the street door, which was over a hundred feet away. The big fellow gazed at them stupidly a moment as they pushed him along and then said:

"What are you fellows doing?"

"Keep quiet, now," answered the officer.

"Keep quiet, now," answered the of "We're going to put you out doors, and if don't keep your mouth shut you'll be le

SIGNS IN THE HERLS

A Cobbler Says He Can Tell How a Mar Walks by His Shoes.

A shoomaker says: As soon as a man or

HAVING FUN IN BOSTON. You Can Have Lots of It There if You Know

street cars huddled together in the vain at tempt to keep warm. There were about a dozen persons in a Bor

when he was sufficiently thawed out. The conductor admitted that it was a corking night, but be never heard of a man's hair or

of his head. The owner of the hat apparently realized his fate, but said nothing. He pulled the uncanny headgear back to its former position as if he were struggling fearfully to keep his hair from rising.

The passengers were mystified. One lady remarked that "the poor fellow must be suffering terribly."

remarked that "the poor fellow must be surering terribly."

Just at this moment the car came to a stop, and as the door was thrown open a chilly blast of the zero atmosphere rushed in.

Again the hat rose from the head of the form in the spring overcoat, and it was only with much difficulty and struggling restored to its proper place.

like: "Well, I fooled 'em, I fooled 'em, didn't I?"
He had lots of quiet fun with himself, and after he had had all he wanted he called the

The Science of Transportation to Be Contribution to Political Econom

fold. Millions of well-paid, well-fed laborers enjoy

One Man's Experience With Lights From the Dallas Morning News. A News reporter met a man who was strurecovered.

pain. My muscles were all contracted and he would have found that she had Willie quiet in five minutes and asleep in ten."

TRAVELED ON HIS FACE.

The "Beat's" Boast Was Proved in a Way That Astonished Him.

From the Chicaro Herald.

"You've forgotten to pay, sir; you owe 60 cents," said an attendant in a State street hotel to a well-dressed man who was leaving the billiard room without paying for the games he had lost. With the fumes of one too many glasses dimming his brain, the fellow turned alowly and exclaimed:

"Pay! What'll I pay?"

"Money, boss. That's what we need here."

"Well, I don't have to pay. See? I travel on my face."

The man with whom he had been playing was also tipsy, but not so much as to forget that paying is the sequel to playing.

"If you don't pay your bill," said he, "I will."

"No, you won't," answered the other, who was a large and well-built chap. "I'm three whenever I was at rest for ten minutes at a

He was asked his recollection of the shock "I was standing by my house one clouday. Suddenly I saw a fiash of light, whi looked as if all the heavens were being open looked as if all the heavens were being opened and the stars running together. I could feel a pain as if men were sticking needles into a thousand different portions of my body at once, and then I knew nothing until I opened my eyes and heard a doctor say: 'He's slive, anyhow, and that's all.' It's unlike any pain and far more terrible to my notion."

The gentleman still keeps his body heavily

THE PURSE."

TAKES MONEY FROM Imitations may be cheap but they are worthless. he sure to buy the genuine Johnan Hon's Mait Extract only. It will give you the best satisfac-

BELIEF IN WITCHCRAFT.

Rev. Dr. Buckley Says It Still is Powerful to Witchcraft is at the present time believed in

by a majority of the citizens of the United into my shop and takes off his shoes I can to ates. The larger number of immigrants from whether or not he is a good walker and it is asthe continent of Europe are more or less in fear tonishing to find how few men know the proper

From the Globe-Demo

inconsiderable proportion of persons of English and Scotch descent; for a strong vein of superstition is discernible in many Irish, Scotch and | sole shows sign of weakness at the ball of the some English, whose "folk lore," diffused foot, a little greater on the inside just below in nursery tales and neighborhood gossip, has the base of the great toe, I know that the entwined itself strongly about the fibers of wearer is a good walker.

If, however, the heel is turned on one side or Among the more ignorant members of the is worn evenly throughout and the sole is worn Catholic church of every nationality the belief most near the toe, I know that I have to deal

from the elbow. In pedestrianism it is to wall from the hip and not from the knee.

From the Boston Herald. It was a very cold night. Passengers in the

ton-bound Beacon street "electric," when they were joined by a young man clad in a worn-out spring overcoat with trousers to match. Upon his head he sported a dilapidated derby, which was pulled down as close to his ears as the rim would allow. He took a seat near the patent electric heater and tried to keep up his spirits. The other passengers, wrapped in big ulsters

"Chilly night, nin't it?" he said in a squeak ing voice and a general, sociable sort of way, "Yes, kind of frosty," replied the conductor.
Then the passengers were startled by the following additional opinion on the weather: "Say, do yer know it's cold erauff ternite to make

end when there wasn't a ghost around. Suddenly the young man commenced to shiver. His knees rattled together and, to the horror and surprise of the other occupants of the car, the derby gradually crowded upward until it seemed to be suspended above the crown

proper place.

After repeating this operation, as he did several times, the half-frozen passenger chuckled to himself and muttered something that sounded

conductor and said in his most squeaky voice and most sociable manner: "Ain't you onto der racket?"

I've ter do is ter wrinkle my forrid and der rubber counteracts and up she goes. See?" "You're very funny, ain't you?" the conduc-

AMERICAN RAILROADS From the London Financial Times.

The science of transportation is going to be the special contribution of the American people to political economy. It is the most interesting feature in their economic system, and the achievements which they have accomplished through it will in future ages read almost like fabies. It has been a magician's wand, calling towns into existence on the desolate prairie raising towns into cities and cities into worldfamous hives of wealth and industry. It has conjured up fortunes out of nothing and mul-

tiplied values ten, twenty, aye, often a hundred its blessings without ever thinking to what they owe them. For every capitalist, every large manufacturer, every prosperous merchant there could have been without it, there are now thousands. The teeming factories of New England and the mammoth ware houses of Chicago have sprung from it as directly as the silver mine of Colorado or Nevada.

sprung from it as directly as the silver mine of Colorado or Nevada.

The wealth creating power of North America is to a very large extent the product of its wealth distributing facilities. But for the capacity of the railways to carry wheat from the Missouri river to the Atlantic coast for a few cents per bushel there would have been no wheat farms west of Chicago, and many of the richest agricultural states in the Union might still have been in possession of the buffalo and the red Indian.

by ligh tning five years ago and has never quite "When I was first struck," he said, "I was dead for two or three days. Then consci ness returned and with it a sense of most coute

protected from head to too, wearing twice clothes sufficient for ordinary morsals, and damp weather he piles on still more.

tion. The genuine must have